

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

09/420,777

Applicant(s)

MOREAU ET AL.

Examiner

King Y. Poon

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS**. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 8/19/2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,6-16,20-65 and 69-77, renumbered as claims 1-68.
3. The drawings filed on 19 October 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
 Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
 Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
 of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
 Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER



1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The invention is directed to a method of predicting a quantity of a printing product necessary for printing a document.

Independent claims 1, 15, 29, 50, 75 identify the uniquely distinct features of "dividing each page of the document into wider bands of the digital data, wherein a wider band is a band increased by an overlap margin belonging to an adjacent band."

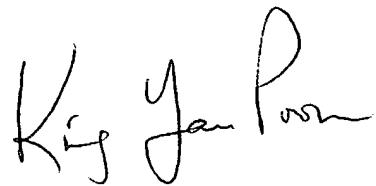
The closest prior arts, Springett (US 5,636,032) teaches a similar method of predicting a quantity of a printing product necessary for printing a document, Tatsuzawa (US 6,209,986) teaches dividing each page of a document into bands of digital data.

Both references either singularly or in combination with other cited references, fail to anticipate or render the above underline limitations obvious (to use in combination with other claimed limitations).

The difference of Tatsuzawa's reference and the invention: (a) Tatsuzawa, in creating a band (fig. 3, fig. 4A, fig. 4B), does not create a overlap margin that belongs to the band; (b) the band does not increase in size after the boundaries of the band is defined; and (c) the band does not increase by the overlap margin belong of an adjacent band.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is (703) 305-0892.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "King Y. Poon".

12/17/04

**KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER**